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BRAVING THE COLD — Lots of kids exclaimed "Oh" and maybe those among Dansville Primary School kindergartners that might have said "Ouch" in tumbles during the winter mini-Olympics. Last week was designated "O" week for the youngsters at the school. The sports program climaxed the observance. Above, left, James Clark assists daughter, Michelle, with boarding her plastic sled for a downhill run on the snow. Classmate Billy Clark, no relation, is in line. At right, Casey Schmidt is pushed by an unidentified classmate as Ryan Dale watches. Children, in lower photo, wait for their turn on the slope.

Dansville Group Looks to Future

A group of Dansville citizens interested in the future of the community and its area, to this time loosely described as a steering committee, last week took on a more formal position with an organizational meeting.

Don Bartalo, schools superintendent, was named temporary chairman of the Dansville Economic Steering Committee. He said the group's purpose will be to coordinate efforts for continuing community growth.

Members are Rev. James Bender, Alice Burdick, Din Derti, John Bennett, Jerry Derrenbacher, Mayor Michael Kane, Robert Goings, Donald Sylor, Robert Matthews, Teresa Canuti, Jon Shay, James Yost, Marie Roberts, Jill Alcorn, Ruth Mills, Robert Hart, David Mance and Joel Kimp.

Bartalo stated that most of the session was devoted to discussing needs of the community and functions of the committee that is an outgrowth of earlier sessions promoted by the Dansville Chamber of Commerce, the Business Association and the Dansville Economic Development Corp.

The three organizations are sponsoring "The Future of Dansville" dinner Saturday at Brae Burn Recreation. They con-

ducted a panel discussion last month and plans are for a public-wide meeting to be next month or early March with speakers.

Bartalo said the committee has scheduled its next meeting for 4 p.m. Feb. 9 in the Senior High School library.

The agenda for that session includes completing a needs assessment of the community and start planning for short and long range priorities.

He said members will be provided with the master plan developed for the village, the Town of North Dansville and other information regarding the community.

The committee will be "coordinating the effort of growth," Bartalo said making recommendations to groups responsible to the areas. "We don't intend to be a body to try to carry out everything," he said, noting that it has an interest in two

things: educating citizens to the needs of and planning for improvement of the community. He said the committee wants to help take care of what Dansville already has.

Bartalo noted being considered also is development of a new brochure for Dansville to replace one published several years ago.

He said, "The committee is up-beat in its approach, looking ahead and wants to coordinate the efforts."

Rural Health Care Program in Focus

In conjunction with a recent Republican-sponsored seminar on long term health care, Assemblyman John W. Hasper has renewed his call for an improved rural health services system.

The need to closely examine the effectiveness of medical services statewide is critical given longer life expectancy and increased demand on the system, Hasper said.

"Recent statistics, for instance, show New York ranking 41st in the nation in the number of available nursing home beds. The surge in the nursing home population is largely due to the general absence of alternative levels of care for the elderly, and the options become almost non-existent in rural areas of the state," he said.

Hasper, who represents rural Allegany and Livingston counties and part of Ontario, has been a critic of the state Health Department's efforts of centralize and regulate medical care and do away with some smaller community hospitals.

Hasper came to the rescue of Cuba Hospital when it was slated to be closed by the Health Department last year and says Commissioner David Axelrod "is playing a dangerous game with the health and economic well-being of many communities in rural New York."

Hasper was a member of the panel when the state Legislative Commission on Rural Resources

held a hearing on the "Future of Health Care in Western New York" last month. Last spring, the commission called on Commissioner Axelrod to impose a moratorium of up to three years on all hospital closings and for criteria to be established to gauge the need for a hospital.

and volunteerism. In other words, problems and solutions are not the same everywhere.

Hasper cited the following passage from the commission's preliminary report on "The Design of a Rural Health Services System for the Next Two Decades": Both

Community Hospitals Serve Special Needs

"Closing smaller hospitals like Cuba would drive up the cost of patient care and Medicaid," Hasper said.

The legislator pointed out that the government is staggering under the current costs of health care, and some hospitals are suffering staffing and training problems. The trend in health care today is to replace local institutions with roots in the community with one-stop medical centers.

A local hospital may be a major feature in the fabric of local life, Hasper noted.

"And one of the benefits of living in a small community is the strong value put on community ties, responsibility for neighbors

government finance and regulatory measures are key determinants of health care delivery in New York State today...the one-note symphony approach characteristic of much public policy and regulatory provisions in health care simply becomes part of the problem rather than a creative orchestration of individual efforts responsive to a diversity of needs and conditions.

"It is up to the state Legislature to take on the challenge of ensuring appropriate medical services through a strategy that is both innovative and practical," Hasper said.

The area assemblyman noted that the ability of the Legislature to effect change in the medical

Renovation Plan Eye Projects For Schools

A list of proposed capital projects for renovation of buildings in the Dansville Central School District was received by the Board of Education at its meeting last week.

Presented by Elwood Huff, chairman of the board's finance committee, the report culminates a three-month study of district buildings. Committee members, in addition to Huff, are Trustee Dorothy Hodgekies, Schools Superintendent Don Bartalo and District Business Manager Eric J. Wright.

Bartalo said the group did not consider new construction plans, noting that the student census does not indicate the need for new additions, but, he said, the "area needs to be looked at."

The School Board is to make a buildings tour to determine the possible need for an architectural study.

A partial listing of possible projects includes: Primary School — new carpeting; Junior High School — renovation and enlargement of the cafeteria, replace gym floor, new library carpet, install elevator; Senior High School — replace auditorium carpet, resurface corridor walls, new pool

roof, replace band room carpet, install elevator; bus garage — new storage area roof, storage building.

Trustees, in another action, approved a number of courses to be introduced in September. Bartalo said they are: Unified Science, Design Drawing for Production Materials Processing (replacing metal shop), Production Systems (replacing woodshop), Personal Business Management (replacing consumer economics), and Principles of Marketing.

Two new offerings to senior students only are Government, and Economics. Both are 20-hour courses.

He said the changes reflect courses required by the Regents Action Plan.

The School Board approved a salary plan for administrators. Presented by Bartalo, it includes the annual evaluation of all administrators with completion by Dec. 31. The superintendent is to propose salaries for the district's four principals and the business manager.

The recommendations are to be based on job performance, the an-

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Village Okays Fire Truck Repair

Citing the need for repair and refurbishing of the Union Hose Co. fire truck, the Village Board, at its meeting last week authorized publication of a legal notice seeking bids on the project. Cost of the work is estimated at upwards of \$80,000.

The custom pumper was purchased by the village in 1976. Bids will be received until Mar. 21 when they will be opened at 5 p.m.

Acting on the request of Mayor Michael Kane, trustees authorized seeking the acquisition of the former Dansville and Mt. Morris Railroad right-of-way from Morse Street north to the village line. The property, now owned by the Genesee and Wyoming Railroad, has been abandoned.

Kane noted the half-mile stretch could be replaced by a road opening an area of property for future development.

The board authorized a letter to the Town-Village Planning Board requesting a study be made for possible rezoning of agricultural land within the community.

Only about 10 percent of agricultural land in the village is used for farming with most of the remainder undeveloped.

Kane reported also that Henrietta Sylor of 47 Health St. has agreed to grant an easement on

her property for installation of a storm sewer that would accept ground water runoff from areas of VanCampen Street.

In other business, the board:

—Appointed Alan Cragg as second alternate member of the Zoning Board of Appeals. He will serve through March.

—Set Grievance Day hours from 1 to 6 p.m. Feb. 16 in the mayor's office at the Town Hall and authorized the village clerk to publish a notice announcing the time and date.

—Authorized publishing a notice for a public hearing at 7 p.m. Feb. 4 for discussion of a renewal of a franchise between the village and Bradley TV Cable Service Inc. The firm's current franchise expires Aug. 18.

—Following a public hearing conducted prior to the meeting of Trustees, the board approved the use of \$5,087 in revenue sharing funds for work on village streets.

—Authorized payment of bus drivers for two out-of-town basketball games, part of the winter youth recreation program.

—Officially closed Babcock Park for the winter and received a recommendation from Brad Chapman, foreman of the streets department, to erect a chain link fence for the park entrance. No action was taken on the suggestion.

Ambulance Vols Have Busy Time

Two reports were submitted to the Village Board at its meeting last week by Kip E. Biddle, secretary of the Ambulance Co. of the Dansville Fire Department.

Biddle reported on the company's activity for December and provided the annual year-end report.

For December, Biddle noted that a total of 68 calls were received of which 50 were of a serious nature. There were 11 transports and seven for other purposes.

The company's two ambulances traveled a total of 887 miles during the period with equipment and volunteers averaging 13 miles per call.

For the year, Biddle noted there were 694 calls with 415 reported of a serious nature, 168 for transport and 111 for other purposes.

Equipment and company members tallied 12,453 miles during the reported period traveling an average of slightly over 18 miles per call.

He reported September was the busiest month of the year with slightly over 80 calls for the period. June edged out January, May and December for second place with the three coming in about equal for the third busiest months. April and November had the least number of calls.

To Greet Speaker At Special Event

Brae Burn Recreation will be the site for the "Future of Dansville" dinner to be at 7 p.m. Saturday sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce, the Business Association and the local Economic Development Corp.

Guest speaker for the program will be Dr. David Martin, professor of economics, John Wiley School of Business, Genesee State University College, who will discuss the community's economic future.

Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased at all local banks or from chamber directors.